

Democrat and Sentinel.



M. HASSON, Editor & Publisher

WEDNESDAY FEB. 22, 1865.

S. M. Pettengill & Co.

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Appalling Destitution.

We never cease hearing of the horrors incident to the present internecine conflict.

We hear of the cruel and inhuman treatment endured by our brave soldiers when captured by their rebel enemies—tales of suffering on the one hand and brutality on the other, of which we could scarcely credit the narration, were it not attested by the best authority.

There are some thousands of non-reporting conscripts, and as many prisoners of state, who might do "the State some service," if sent to the front, confined in the Northern States in damp and loathsome dungeons, for some supposed offence, of which they may be either innocent or guilty; the officers of the Government refusing to inquire why.

Nay, we may come nearer home. At the Capital of our own great Commonwealth, a large number of newly enlisted soldiers, fresh from the comforts of Pennsylvania homes, appeared in the Executive Chamber within the last few days, to lay their grievances before Gov. Curtin. Their feet, and in some cases their hands, had been frozen in a terrible manner for want of care and clothing. The Governor feeling the deepest sympathy for these men, but having no power to interfere, referred the matter to the Legislature, who appointed a committee to report on the facts. When the chairman of that committee informed the officer in charge of Camp Curtin, that this treatment of the Pennsylvania soldiers annoyed Governor Curtin very much, the taunting reply was made that, "He was put there by the Administration for the purpose of annoying Gov. Curtin."

But we have something worse here at our own doors. That portion of the army of the United States now holding Cambria County, have been so badly provided for during the late very inclement weather, as to be compelled to strip our citizens of their clothing, to shield themselves from the storms of winter. It is too bad that our soldiers should be so treated. We think it right to submit our army off the invaded States, but we think, also, that compelling the brave soldiers to forage for their clothing on the people of Cambria County is all wrong.

Only a few days since a brace of our Abolition friends were coming to Ebensburg in a sled, one of them wearing a blue coat, the property of his brother, who had served three years in the army, and obtained an honorable discharge. A detachment of our brave soldiers met them, and urged doubtless by the necessity of the case, as the day was piercingly cold, stripped the coat from the shoulders of the countryman, who had to proceed in his shirt-sleeves.

We suggest to such of our friends as honestly acquired a blue coat, to get it dyed black, (a color that the "Powers that be" will not suffer any interference with,) as we think it the duty of the Government to clothe her own soldiers.

County has borne too conspicuous a part in the war to be made the victim of raids of this kind upon her people by the suffering soldiers.

Blue Overcoats.

It has been a popular belief, that under the Constitution and laws of the State, every citizen was the sole judge of what he should eat, what he should drink and what he should wear. From recent developments in our midst, it would seem that this is a mere delusion, or at least that the privilege is to be essentially curtailed. The members of the Provost Guard doing duty here, being out of active employment owing to the great depth of the snow, have organized a scientific raid upon all persons who may be so fortunate or unfortunate, as the sequel may prove, as to be the owner of a military blue overcoat. The unsatisfied demands of "military necessity," have caused them to be declared contraband not of war but of dress. Several gentlemen from the rural districts, of undoubted loyalty, have been relieved of their long tailed blues and made to "jump about and wheel about and jump Jim Crow," within the last week.

This novel and unexpected flank movement has created wide spread alarm and intense excitement in this community and a man who would now be bold enough to sport a blue overcoat in our streets, would attract quite as much attention, as Miss Angelina without hoops, or a verdant youth with a regular scullow tail and dilapidated bell crown hat. The grievance is insufferable, for it seems to us, that if a man is not gifted with any of that ambition, that would lead him to seek glory at the cannon's mouth, he ought at least to be indulged in the harmless privilege of dressing like a "bold soldier boy."

The modus operandi adopted by the guard, is sharp, quick and decisive and is invariably successful. The case of one of their unsuspecting victims attracted our especial notice. He was comfortably seated on a sled load of lumber and was driving quietly down High street; he had on the fatal "blue" and was singing "Rally around the flag boys," when the soldiers of the Guard, suddenly and to his utter discomfiture rallied around him and with strict military politeness requested him to hand over his outer garment; declining to do so, he was removed from his pile of timber by a gentle laying on of hands and his coat changed owners. He looked as if he had the blues or would like to have them and judging from the peculiar expression of his countenance, we were at a loss to tell whether he would give vent to his indignation in curses or in tears. His fate excited our sympathy, especially so, as he threatened the retreating soldiers to appeal to the majesty of the law for redress. That man had evidently been indulging in a Rip Van Winkle sleep for the last four years. Presuming that the soldiers are acting upon proper authority, the question, "how to save your blue overcoat," is as much mooted in this community, as that other important question, "how to avoid the draft." It is a question of vast importance and upon its correct decision may possibly hinge the fate of the rebellion. We understand that some learned Thebans, who have carefully examined the question, have decided that if a man gets his blue overcoat colored black, the whole difficulty is at once solved and he may bid defiance to a legion of the Provost Guard. We are sorry that we cannot concur in the opinion. The dyer's art will not cut the Gordian knot. It is simply a question of property. If A steals a white hat from B and gets it colored black. A can indict him and convict him of larceny. Our advice to the owner of a blue overcoat is, to place it under lock and key, to wait patiently but hopefully until "this cruel war is over" and if he is fortunate enough to survive it, then to transmit it as an heirloom to his family.

It is stated that the Government has information, receiving through our Consul at London, of the sailing from Kingstown, Ireland, of the steamer Ajax, which it is not doubted, is intended for a rebel pirate. Her armament had gone or would go out on a sailing vessel. Notwithstanding the fact that she is small, it is believed that she will be able to do much damage to American shipping if she gets started in her meditated career. It was thought she would go to Nassau before taking on board her guns.

A large Confederate force under Gen. Robbins is said to be on the Arkansas side of the Mississippi, intending to cross into Tennessee.

The Dark Side of the Picture.

Our leading men in the government seem to be entirely engrossed with the dark side of the picture in these old States. The American citizens of African descent have engaged almost the entire attention of the leading men of the majority in Congress and also in our own Legislature. Sumner and Stevens and Wade, have turned their sole attention to the elevation of this race, regardless of the degradation they are continually heaping upon their own race and color. Charles Sumner brought into the United States Court a colored lawyer from Massachusetts and had him admitted to practice before Chief Justice Chase and the Supreme Court of the United States. This negro John S. Rock, the colored gentleman, we suppose behaved very well, and whether the matter is right in itself or not, we don't wish to say, but we do say the shoddyites are making a great deal of fuss about it. Particularly, the special correspondent of the New York Tribune. He takes more pains in giving a description of it than he would do at the coronation of the Prince of Wales. He describes it as the funeral of the Dred Scott decision, and Charles Sumner and Rock the Pall bearers. It describes the lawyer as jet black, hair of an extra twist, of an aggravating kink, unqualified and defiantly "nigger"—with no palliation of complexion no let down in lip, no compromise in nose, no abatement in any facial cranial or osteological particular.

If Charles Sumner has buried the Dred Scott decision, be it so, but if he and his fanatical coopers, have buried their country beyond the hope of a resurrection, then they may have been benefactors to the negro race, but they are malefactors to the human race besides.

While these things are transpiring in Washington city our own abolitionists are busy in Harrisburg. Morrow B. Lowry seems to have taken principal charge of the colored branch of the concern. They have been legislating with regard to street cars for some time, but we have lost sight of it, and don't know where they have left it.

A State convention of colored gentlemen was held at Harrisburg the other day. They invited the members of the Legislature to attend. Senator Lowry we believe did attend. This convention met for the purpose of securing equal rights to the colored population of Pennsylvania. Education, the right of suffrage etc., were discussed. The Legislature will hardly attempt to amend the Constitution this session, the abolition amendment in Congress may satisfy them for the present.

They have had already a large portion of the time of Congress and our own Legislature devoted to them this winter. It is not the mission of the democratic party to crush the negro or the white man either. The greatest good to the greatest number was always their motto. And whenever it could be made manifest that the abolition of slavery would have that tendency, then would the democracy adopt it as a principle by giving a compensation to the owners of slaves. The democratic party never blamed the South for having slaves, it was not their fault it was the fault of England, who saddled it on the country first, and New England afterwards who saddled it on the South when it could be no longer profitable to themselves.

Carnival for the Crows.

Although these are rather hard times to obtain provisions for man and beast, the crows of our neighboring forest have lit on a lucky streak this winter. Some of our enterprising citizens in the fall of the year attended at the sale of government horses held at Altoona and got rare bargains, they purchased some horses so low as a dollar, and they are now feeding them to a rookery which made their home in the woods contiguous to this place. Whether it is by design or for the benefit of the crows these horses generally give up the ghost on Saturday night so that the feast must be had on Sunday. There is a visible change in the outward appearance of this feathered tribe, since our enterprising neighbors began to feed them on the equine race.

Hertofore it took about five of these crows compactly put up together to make a shadow, but now they have got so plump that one of them in a good sun will make a shadow and a half.

The dogs refused to have anything to do with these carrion as there was little

or no flesh on them and it would take the sharp bill of a crow to pick it off. They will be so accustomed to high living henceforward that we need have no apprehension of them attacking the corn fields. Indeed we believe that the farmers would save money by feeding the crows on government horses for a month or so during corn planting time. It would be a good way to compromise with them, and would not be more troublesome than twine and scare-crows.

The War.

The Hon. Mr. Dawson on the thirteenth offered a preamble and resolutions in Congress which brought the abolitionists up to the work in good style. It was tabled by a regular party vote. All the abolitionists voting to lay them on the table. It shows us exactly what this war is carried on for; not for a restoration of the Union, not for the preservation of the constitution. The war is carried on that thieves may thrive that shoddy may plunder. We question very much if ever the South would lay down their arms and ask admission into the union if these abolitionists would let them. They are not yet sufficiently glutted with blood and greenbacks.

This preamble and resolutions come up to the democratic doctrine of how the war should be carried on. It never can be successful under any other programme, and certainly the people by this time should know it. Honor to John L. Dawson; He is not put in the position that Coffroth was placed to sell his birth-right for a mess of pottage. The republicans may keep their contract with him and let him be a representative in Congress for the next two years, and put Kouss out of the way by giving him a location some place else. Coffroth's speech is like the poor man's plaster it would require a great deal of advertising to make it appear genuine.

They feed on tears, they fatten on distress, and wring their wealth from suffering's vast excess."

Preamble and resolution offered by Hon. John L. Dawson, of Pennsylvania, Feb. 13, 1865, and laid on the table by the vote of 73 yeas to 43 nays.

WHEREAS, The American people have now been engaged in a civil war of gigantic dimensions for nearly four years, which has resulted in frightful destruction of life, property and treasure, creating an enormous public debt, imposing the most oppressive taxes, covering the land with affliction, corrupting the general morals, and putting in peril the liberties of the nation;

AND WHEREAS, On the part of the United States, and the people of the States which adhere to their government, this is and ought to be a war solely to vindicate the Constitution and restore the laws to their just supremacy; to that we are bound by our oaths, and by our solemn pledges made in the face of the world when the war commenced; therefore,

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to use all honorable and just means to bring about a lasting peace and the re-establishment of fraternal relations among all the people by a restoration of the Union upon the simple and just basis of the Constitution and laws, with every proper guarantee to the Southern States that they shall be protected in the full enjoyment of their rights and in that undisturbed control of their own local affairs which the Federal Constitution was intended to secure to them and to us.

Proclamation of General Lee.

The proclamation of General Lee to his soldiers has the ring of the true soldier and gentleman about it. He is a rebel, but he is a bold outspoken one. HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF CONFEDERATE STATES, Feb. 11, 1865.—General Orders No. 2.—In entering upon the campaign about to open, the General in Chief feels assured that the soldiers who have so long and so nobly borne the hardships and dangers of the war require no exhortation to respond to the calls of honor and duty. With the liberty transmitted by their forefathers they have inherited the spirit to defend it. The choice between war and abject submission is before them. To such a proposal, brave men with arms in their hands can have but one answer. They cannot barter manhood for peace nor the right of self-government for life or property.

But justice to them requires a sterner animadversion to those who have abandoned their comrades in the hour of peril. A last opportunity is offered them to wipe out the disgrace and escape the punishment of their crimes. By authority of the President of the Confederate States, a pardon is announced to such deserters and men improperly absent as shall return to the commands to which they belong within the shortest possible time, not exceeding twenty days from the publication of this order, at the head-quarters of the department in which they may be.

Those who may be prevented by interruption of communication may report

within the time specified to the nearest enrolling officer, or other officer on duty to be forwarded as soon as practicable, and upon presenting certificates from such officer, showing compliance with this request, will receive the pardon hereby offered. Those who have deserted to the service of the enemy, or having deserted after having been once pardoned for the same offense, and those who shall desert or absent themselves without authority after the publication of this order, shall be excluded from its benefits. Now does the offer of pardon extend to offenses than desertion and absence without permission.

By the same authority it is also declared that no general amnesty will again be granted, and those who refuse to accept the pardon now offered, or who shall hereafter desert or absent themselves without leave, shall suffer such punishment as the courts may impose, and no application for clemency will be entertained.

Taking new resolution from the fate which our enemies intend for us, let every man devote all his energies to the common defense. Our resources, fully and vigorously employed, are ample, and with brave armies sustained by a determined and united people, success, with God's assistance, cannot be doubtful. The advantage of the enemy will have but little value if we do not permit them to impair our resolution. Let us then impose constancy to adversity, fortitude to suffering, and courage to danger, with the firm assurance that he who gave freedom to our fathers will bless the efforts of their children to preserve it.

R. E. LEE, General.

The News.

The Pittsburgh Post of Tuesday says:—One of the cradles of the Rebellion has fallen. We mean Charleston. A despatch on Saturday from Gen. Grant to Secretary Stanton, announced on the authority of the Richmond Dispatch, of the 18th, that Sherman had occupied Columbia, the capital of South Carolina, on the 17th, and that this movement necessitated the fall of Charleston. This logic appears to have been of an "inexorable" character, for yesterday, Gen. Weitzel telegraphed to Secretary Stanton from City Point, as follows:

CITY POINT, VA., Feb. 20. To E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War: The following dispatch has just been received, signed U. S. Grant, Lieutenant General:—The Richmond Examiner of to-day, just received, says that Charleston was evacuated on Thursday last.

G. WEITZEL, Maj. Gen.

The news from Sherman visibly affects the gold market. Up to noon yesterday fluctuated between 205 and 201. Dates from Havana, to the 15th inst., state that several more blockade runners had returned to that place. The rebels intend purchasing small schooners to run to the coast of Florida. The coffee trade is opening again in Cuba.

The sales of 7-30's by J. Cooke during the week ending Saturday, 18th, were \$26,240,200. At this rate the remainder of the loan will be sold before the end of March next. All banks and bankers will supply the loan at par to immediate applicants.

The Amendatory Tax bill passed the House on Saturday last, and now goes to the Senate. It will take the Finance Committee of the Senate nearly all of this week to examine and amend it; so that it will not be finally adopted until near the close of the session. The tax on sales was defeated. The proposition for taxing gold transactions twenty per cent, was rejected. The House agreed to the tax of ten per cent on State bank circulation. It is to be imposed after Jan. 1, 1866. It is estimated that the bill will add from forty to fifty millions to the revenue.

President Lincoln has pardoned the notorious Col. Fish, late Provost Marshal of Baltimore, whose corruptions and brutality were a few months since, matter of indignant comment on the part of Northern journals. Of course.

Roger A. Pryor has been released from Fort Lafayette, by Mr. Lincoln, with a view to effect his own exchange. He is an old journalistic friend of Col. Forney, and is ordered to report to John W., at Washington—Happy family.

The army appropriation bill has passed. It is only a matter of five hundred millions or so; or to be precise, \$518,579,527. By this bill, the commutation price of officers' rations was increased to fifty cents. This applies to all officers below the rank of brigadier general, and increase the pay of colonels thirty-six dollars per month, that of lieutenant colonels thirty, and of majors and other officers of lower grade, twenty-four dollars.

General Lee, in a letter to General (Henry A.) Wise, under date of Feb. 4, says: "The spirit evinced in this document is the true one. If our people will sustain the noble soldiers of the confederacy and evince the same resolution and fortitude under their trials which have characterized the army, I feel no apprehension about the issue of the contest. I do not see how we can, by any compromise or negotiation, abate aught of the rights claimed in this admiral declaration without a surrender of the liberties we derived from our ancestors."

The Richmond Examiner, of the 17th,

reiterate the repulse of Kilpatrick, by Wheeler's rebel cavalry, on the 11th, at Aiken, 18 miles from Augusta, and between that place and Branchville, but the Richmond Way says there was nothing at the War Department to verify the reported defeat of General Kilpatrick.

The rebels now estimate the entire number of General Sherman's forces operating in the interior of South Carolina, at only 40,000.

The Richmond Way of the 17th, says all it could learn on inquiring at the War Department was, that General Sherman was somewhere, but it was not known where.

The Wilmington Carolinian intimates that an important movement is going on which is supposed to be the evacuation of the city.

The Mobile Register says: "The Southern people are not whipped, but cowed. Their souls, and not their hands, are disarmed. Our strength is not sapped, but our courage is oozing out at our fingers' ends."

The Lynchburg Republican says "the Virginia and Tennessee railroad, it is thought, will be open for travel to Bristol by the first of March. Repairs are being pushed forward with unusual energy. Some idea of the magnitude of the work to be done may be formed from the statement that all the bridges, fifty or sixty in number, for a distance of eighty miles, have to be rebuilt, and much of the track to be relaid, besides other repairs to be made of minor consequence."

General Lee, on assuming command of the Confederate army, issuing a general order headed "Headquarters Confederacy, February 7th." It is brief, the only paragraph bearing on the subject of the war being the following:

"I am deeply impressed with the difficulties of the position; and humbly invoking the guidance of Almighty God, I rely for success upon the courage and fortitude of the army, sustained by the patriotism and firmness of the people, confiding that their united efforts, under the blessing of Heaven, will secure peace and independence."

Thomas spell weather," said a schoolmaster to one of his pupils. "We can't be our weather," said the teacher. "I think this is the worst spell of weather we have had since Christmas."

The Marchioness of Londonderry's detainer. She is the fine old lady who, during her sickness, replied to the physician when he declared that he could not make her young again: "I know it, but can you not help me to grow older?"

TO CONSUMPTIVES.

The undersigned having been restored to health in a few weeks, by a very simple remedy, after having suffered several years with a severe lung affection, and that had become a consumption, is anxious to make known to his fellow sufferers the name of the cure.

To all who desire it, he will send a copy of the prescription used (free of charge) with the directions for preparing and taking the same, which they will find a remedy for COUGHS, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, HAEMOPTOE, CATARRH, GONORRHOEA, &c. The only objection to advertising in sending the prescription is to benefit the afflicted, and spread information which he believes to be invaluable; all he hopes every sufferer will try his remedy, as it will cost them nothing, and may prove a blessing. Parties wishing the prescription will please address

REV. EDWARD A. WILSON, Williamsburg Kings Co. New York Feb. 15, 1865.

APPEALS.

Notice is hereby given that the appeals for the year 1865, will be held at the Commissioner's Office in the Borough of Ebensburg, as follows:

- On Wednesday March 22, Allegheny Township and Blacklick Township.
Friday March 24th, Eckenburg Township and Cambria Borough.
Monday March 27th, Carrolltown Borough and Carroll Township.
Tuesday March 28th, Chest Springs Borough and Clearfield Township.
Wednesday March 29th, Stoughton and Chest Townships.
Thursday March 30th, Conemaugh Borough and Conemaugh Township.
Friday March 31st, Croyle and Summit Hill Townships.
Monday April 3rd, Wilmore Borough and Jackson Township.
Tuesday April 4th, 1st 2d and 3d wards Johnstown Borough.
Wednesday April 5th, 4th and 5th wards Johnstown Borough.
Thursday 6th, Munster Township and Summitville Borough.
Friday April 7th, Yoder Township and Millville Borough.
Monday April 10th, Richland Township.
Tuesday April 11th, Taylor and Washington Townships.
Wednesday April 12th, White Township.
Thursday April 13th, Cambria and Prospect Boroughs.

The Military Appeals of each district will be held at the same time and place as appeals for property are heard. Witness our hands at Ebensburg 16th day of March A. D. 1865.

JOHN CAMPBELL, E. GLASS, E. R. DUNNEGAN, Commissioners. Attest, Wm. H. Schaefer, Clerk, February 22d 1865.